(b) the number of roads to be strengthened under the programme;

(c) the amount to be spent on these projects; and

(d) the amount that World Bank has agreed to provide for the development of roads in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven roads are to be strengthened under this programme.

(c)The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1100 crores.

(d) The amount to be provided by the World Bank has not been decided.

Cell for Minorities

2536. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received by the grievances cell for minorities during 1996; and

(b) action taken on them by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Minority Cell was set up in that Ministry in November, 1996. During 1996, it received 32 petitions which have been taken up with the concerned authorities for further action.

Construction of Road

2537. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tripura submitted a proposal to the North East Council for the improvement of Ambasa-Bagafa-Belonia road;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have sanctioned the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Improvement of the road to other District Road standards at an estimated cost of Rs. 30 Crs. has been included by the NEC as a new scheme for execution during the 9th five year plan subject to approval by the Planning Commission and availability of funds.

Exotic Breeding Bulls

2538. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the exotic breeds being propagated by the Government for improving the milk yield of the cows in India;

(b) the number of exotic breed bulls farms have been set up alongwith their locations;

(c) the number of exotic breeding bulls imported during the last three years;

(d) the countries from where such bulls were imported; and

(e) the average cost of an exotic breeding bull?

THE MINISTER QF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Jersey and Holstein Friesian bulls are used for cross-breeding of non-descript cows to improve milk yield.

(b) The Central Cattle Breeding Farm for production of Jersey bulls is at Semiliguda, in Koraput district of Orissa and that for production of Holstein Friesian bulls is at Hessarghatta in Karnataka.

(c) Import of 259 bulls was permitted during the last three years out of which 45 bulls were imported for Central Cattle Breeding Farm, Hessarghatta.

(d) The bulls were imported from Denmark, Australia, the United States of America and Israel.

(e) The average cost of an imported exotic breeding bull works out to approximately Rs. 0.75 lakh.

Voluntary Organisations

2539. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations with their locations in Assam being aided by the Union Government;

(b) the criteria fixed for providing assistance;

(c) the name of the agency conducting audit of such organisations;

(d) whether the Government are aware that some organisations misutilised funds; and

(e) if so, the action taken so far/proposed to be taken against such organisations?